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DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## HEALTH OF DRONFIELD

for

**1956**



By

**JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch B., D.P.H.**

Medical Officer of Health.



DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1956

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1956.

In 1955 the lowest infantile mortality rate for Dronfield was recorded, i.e. 8 per 1,000. This year the rate is 24.39 per 1,000. In actual figures the rate in 1955 represented 1 death in 119 births; the figures this year are 3 deaths in 123 births.

The vital statistics indicate a satisfactory state of affairs, and again I have to thank my colleagues and the Council for their help during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

## **SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

There has been no big influx of industry during the year but full employment continues and it can be said that at the present there is a good balance in that the works in the district are of a varied type.

## **HOUSING**

Some houses were dealt with individually but plans etc. are well advanced for the declaration of clearance areas which will be dealt with in 1957. Private development in housing is proceeding apace — 193 houses were erected by private enterprise.

## **SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

The work of sewerage the Hill Top district was completed during the year and the unsatisfactory condition with regard to drainage will be dealt with in the near future.

## **WATER SUPPLIES**

The supplies were adequate but again some trouble was experienced with sediment.

## **INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

There were no major outbreaks in the district but Scarlet Fever showed an increase on notifications in the previous year.

One case of Poliomyelitis was notified; it was of the mild type — non-paralytic.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS.**

No cases were dealt with during the year.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's figures) ... .. 8,420

### BIRTH RATE.

14.61 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

14.96 per 1,000 (Live and Still) births.

### DEATH RATE.

9.50 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

### DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

From Sepsis ... .. Nil

From other causes ... .. Nil

### DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births ... .. 24.39

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live  
Births ... .. 24.39

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate  
Live Births ... .. Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... .. Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... .. Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... .. Nil

### BIRTHS IN DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT.

Live Births:—

Males: Total 61 — Legitimate ... .. 60

Illegitimate ... .. 1

Females Total 62 — Legitimate ... .. 62

Illegitimate ... .. Nil

Still Births:—

Males Total 1 — Legitimate

Females Total 1 — Legitimate

### DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Males Total 3 — Legitimate ... .. 3

Illegitimate ... .. Nil

Females Total Nil

### DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS OF AGE

Males Total 3— Legitimate ... .. 3

Illegitimate ... .. Nil

Females Total Nil

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total	Cases	Total Deaths
	Number Notified	Admitted to Hospital	
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	36	27	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infection	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	0	0	0
„ (Non-Paralytic)	1	1	0
Pneumonia	2	0	4
Measles	27	1	0
Whooping Cough	2	0	0

## TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1956

Age Period in years	NEW CASES					DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
5—14	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
15—24	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
25—44	0	1	0	0	...	1	0	0	0
45—64	1	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
65 & over	1	0	2	0	...	0	0	0	0
Age unknown	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0
Total all ages	2	1	2	0	...	1	0	0	0

Cases included above	Not Primary				Not Notified			
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



# DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS, 1956

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	3	—	3
1—5 years	—	—	—
5—10 years	—	—	—
10—15 years	—	—	—
15—20 years	—	—	—
20—25 years	—	—	—
25—35 years	2	—	2
35—45 years	2	2	4
45—55 years	2	2	4
55—65 years	12	3	15
65—70 years	5	2	7
70—75 years	6	6	12
75—80 years	7	9	16
80—85 years	6	5	11
85—90 years	2	2	4
90—95 years	—	2	2
	47	33	80

## TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

Number of cases — 18.

		Adults	5-15	under 5	Total
<b>Scabies.</b>					
Bolsover U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield R.D.C.	...	1	0	0	1
Clay Cross U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C.	...	8	4	0	12
Dronfield U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
		9	4	0	13

### Head Lice

Bolsover U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield R.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Clay Cross U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0

### Scabies with Verminous Heads

Bolsover U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield R.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Clay Cross U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C.	...	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0

Diagnosis not confirmed	0	
Miscellaneous	4	
Pediculosis Corporis	1	Chesterfield R.D.C.
Pediculosis Pubis	0	
	5	

Note.—This is the first full year for which no patient has been treated for Head Lice.

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1956

	Males	Females
All causes ... ..	49	31
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	1	0
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	0	0
Syphilitic disease ... ..	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0
Meningococcal infections ... ..	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0
Measles ... ..	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach, ...	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast: ...	0	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus: ...	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	1
Leukaemia, alukaemia ... ..	0	0
Diabetes ... ..	0	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	4
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	6	2
Hypertension with heart disease ...	0	0
Other heart disease ... ..	8	7
Other circulatory disease ... ..	2	0
Influenza ... ..	0	1
Pneumonia ... ..	0	4
Bronchitis ... ..	3	1
Other disease of respiratory system	1	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	2	0
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	0
Congenital malformations ... ..	3	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	1	0
All other accidents ... ..	1	1
Suicide ... ..	0	1
Homicide and operations of war ..	0	0

# DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

For the Year ended 31st December, 1956.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Report on the work of the Health Department during the year 1956.

### HOUSING.

Work proceeded in respect of the Slum Clearance programme; five areas were declared to be Clearance Orders as follows:—

Stubley Lane	Clearance Area No. 1 - 56
Sheffield Road	Clearance Area No. 2 - 56
Sheffield Road	Clearance Area No. 3 - 56
Holmley Lane	Clearance Area No. 4 - 56
Salisbury Road	Clearance Area No. 5 - 56

a total of 41 houses.

One Demolition Order was made under Section 11, 1936 Housing Act—58 Chesterfield Road, and two undertakings not to re-let were accepted in respect of 63 Sheffield Road and 7 High Street, Dronfield.

House building is proceeding at a reasonable pace, as the following table shows:—

		Local Authority	Private Enterprise Houses
1946	...	50	19
1947	...	76	31
1948	...	99	12
1949	...	49	15
1950	...	6	10
1951	...	24	6
1952	...	40	8
1953	...	4	43
1954	...	28	53
1955	...	44	129
1956	...	10	193
		<u>430</u>	<u>519</u>

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Collections are taking, on average, eight to ten days, which in view of the ever-increasing number of houses without corresponding increase in staff, is fairly reasonable.

Disposal is by controlled tipping and salvageable materials are picked out on the tip.

The sale of salvage materials during the year under revision brought in £1,469 6 5d., made up as follows:—

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	145	0	3	12	1280	19	4
Tins	37	4	2	0	119	2	6
Bottles and jars (203 dozen)						4	1 4
Cullet	0	14	0	0		15	10
Rubber	0	3	0	0		6	0
Textiles	1	7	1	12	7	16	5
Heavy Scrap Iron	1	5	0	0	9	5	6
Light Scrap Iron	4	15	3	0	27	19	9
Non-ferrous metals	0	2	0	14½	18	19	9
	<u>190</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10½</u>	<u>1469</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955.

These regulations came into force, in the main, on 1st July, 1956, and this has resulted in visits being paid to all food traders in the district; on the whole they were well received by the trade and the necessary alterations are in hand in a number of cases.

Foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption were as follows:—

Kippers—1 box, "Red M." brand.  
Corned Beef—1, 6 lb. tin.  
Pickles—2, 10 oz. jars.  
Oranges—2, 11 oz. tins.  
Grape Fruit—2, 16 oz. tins.  
Rhubarb—1, 19 oz. tin.  
Tomatoes—6, 14 oz. tins.  
Peas—1, 16 oz. tin.  
Tomatoes—1, 35 oz. tin.  
Pork—1, 8 oz. tin.  
Beans—3, 16 oz. tins.  
Kidney—1, 12 oz. tin.  
Oats—1, 1½ lb. packet Scott's.

### MEAT INSPECTION.

The following is a list of animals inspected in the district after slaughter:—

Bullocks	Heifers	Cows	Pigs	Sheep	Calves
32	22	2	17	246	2

Of these, only 1 Bullock and 1 Heifer were affected with tuberculosis.

9 Bullocks, 7 Pigs and 8 Sheep were affected by other diseases or conditions.

In addition to this one cow carcase and offal, affected by septic metritis, was also condemned.

A total of 6 cwts. 16 lbs. of carcase meat and offals was condemned as unfit for human consumption.

## **WATER SUPPLIES.**

33 water samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Complaints of dirty water are still being received and at times tea made with this water is undrinkable.

## **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**

All the Local Authority properties have been kept under close supervision and various private premises were cleared during the year. We continue to remain free of any major troubles in the district.

## **PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928-1936.**

19 Licences for the storage of Petroleum Spirit, totalling 19,070 gallons, were granted.

## **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:**

I cannot add anything to my remarks made in the annual report for 1955 on this subject, only report conditions as before !!!

## RECORD OF VISITS DURING 1956.

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	15
Alleged dirty houses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Alterations to existing property	...	...	...	...	...	27
Bakehouses and Food premises	...	...	...	...	...	163
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	66
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	61
Conversions of privy middens to water closets						31
Council house maintenance	...	...	...	...	...	1240
Clerk's department	...	...	...	...	...	48
Drains—defective	...	...	...	...	...	21
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	...	42
New drains	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dustbins,	...	...	...	...	...	245
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	47
Flooded cellars	...	...	...	...	...	3
Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	221
Housing defects general	...	...	...	...	...	284
Hill Top sewers	...	...	...	...	...	41
Ice cream manufacturers and retailers	...	...	...	...	...	17
Infectious diseases and food poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	112
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	9
Interviews with builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	71
Land Charge enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	22
Nuisance from poultry, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Offensive smells	...	...	...	...	...	3
Petroleum Licences	...	...	...	...	...	41
Places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	18
Rats	...	...	...	...	...	592
Refuse collection and salvage	...	...	...	...	...	224
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	18
Sinks, defective	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sink wastes choked	...	...	...	...	...	7
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	51
Smoke abatement	...	...	...	...	...	35
Surveyor's department	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vermin infestation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water closet defects	...	...	...	...	...	34
Water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	45
Water sampling	...	...	...	...	...	70



# **WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR 1956**

Number of Middens converted to water closets					6
New water closets provided	...	...	...		15
Water closets repaired	...	...	...	...	23
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	21
Premises affected by above	...	...	...		52
Defective drains repaired	...	..	...	...	9
New drains constructed	...	...	...	170 ft.	4
Soil pipes	...	...	...	...	37 ft.
Ventilation shafts repaired	...	...	...	...	12 ft.
New manholes constructed	..	...	...		11
New trapped gullies fixed	...	...	...	...	13
New sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	4
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	3
New dustbins supplied	...	...	...	...	120
House roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	11
New eaves spouts fixed and repaired	...	...	...	48 ft.	
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Wallplaster repaired	...	..	...	...	6
Legal Notices, Public Health Act	...	...	...		4
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	7
New fireplaces fitted	...	...	...	...	2
Windows repaired and renewed	...	...	...		7
Yard pavings repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Burst water pipes repaired	...	...	...		9
New rain-water pipes fixed	...	...	...	38 ft.	
House floors repaired	...	...	...	...	6
New bathroom provided	...	...	...	...	1
New lavatory basins	...	...	...	...	3
Damp-proof courses fitted	...	...	...	...	10 ft.
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	8
Water supplies renewed	...	...	...	...	3

E. M. HOUSECROFT, M.A.P.H.I.  
Public Health Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent.





